Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—What kind of posts are these?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Rail posts.

Standard weights and measures prescribed by the State.

182. Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what are the general provisions made, if any, to see that standard weights and measures alone are used in public places such as bazaars and markets;

(b) has any specific provision been made to periodically examine and check the correctness of the weights used in public places as mentioned above;

(c) if provision has been made, what are the provisions made and the authority to work out the provisions;

(d) what are the specific acts of the said authority during the years 1107 and 1108 to show that the authority has been properly functioning during the period?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(a) The Station House Officers have been given powers under section 134 of the Criminal Procedure Code to search any place where they have reason to believe that false weights and measures are kept for fraudulent purposes and to inspect and seize such weights and measures.

Sections 240, 241 and 242 of the Penal Code have also made the use of weights and measures other than standard ones, punishable.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Station House Officers have instructions to periodically check the weights and measures under the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code.

(d) Several shops were inspected by the Station House Officers and 2 cases in 1107 and 5 cases in 1108 were detected and the offenders concerned prosecuted.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Are any reports submitted after the checking by the Station House Officers periodically?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—No, only when cases are detected.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Therefore, there are no records to show that they were inspected if there is no detection?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—No.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Have the Government ever been informed that there are different kinds of stamped paras in the Chittur Market?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Not that I know of.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—After inspection?

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Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—No.

Employees in Government Service.

183. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform.—

(a) the total number of employees in Government service at the end of 1108;

(b) of whom, how many are (i) caste Hindus (ii) non-caste Hindus (iii) Christians (iv) Muslims and (v) Jews;

(c) the total expenditure incurred (excluding the salary and travelling allowance of the permanent Diwan) in salary and travelling allowance in 1108;

and (d) of the above total expenditure, the amounts paid to the employees who are (i) caste Hindus, (ii) non-caste Hindus, (iii) Christians (iv) Muslims and (v) Jews?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—A statement containing the available information is appended. (*Appendix VII*).

Seeds, etc., sold by Agriculture Department.

184. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement showing the annual quantity (or number as the case may be) sold to the public of Cochin by the Agricultural Department, during the 5 years ending with Karkadagam 1108 of.—

(1) paddy seeds;
(2) seed cocoanuts or cocoanut seedlings;
(3) arecanut seedlings;
(4) sugarcane cuttings;
(5) green manure seeds;
(6) scientific manures;
(7) iron ploughs;
(8) seed drills;
(9) other agricultural implements;
(10) calves of superior breeds?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—A statement containing the information is appended. (*Appendix VIII.*)

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